GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1022
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2006
CONDITION OF COTTAGE INDUSTRIES
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Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a): the total number of cottage industries in various States particularly in Jharkhand at present State-wise;

(b): the steps taken by the Government to set up cottage industries in backward regions of various States including the measures taken for deteriorating condition of cottage industries particularly in Jharkhand; and

(c): the achievements made by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES & AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD)

(a)&(b): For setting up of village industries (also referred to as cottage industries) in the rural areas of the country, the Government (in the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries) provides assistance to prospective entrepreneurs under its credit-linked subsidy scheme, namely, the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP), implemented through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC). The State/Union Territory-wise details of total number of units set up by eligible beneficiaries under the REGP (up to 31 March 2005) in the country, including Jharkhand, are given in Annexure enclosed.

To improve the conditions of village industries and make them more competitive, the following schemes are implemented :

(i) Rural Industries Service Centres (RISC) Scheme for setting up of common facility centres to provide infrastructural support and services to such industries.

(ii) Product Development, Design Intervention and Packaging (PRODIP) Programme for improved design and packaging of products.

(iii) Assistance to such units to participate in exhibitions at the national, sub-national levels, etc., for improving marketing of products.

(c): Details of the progress under the REGP in terms of units set up and additional employment opportunities generated during the past three years are given in the table below :

Sl. No.	Year	Number of units	Employment (lakh persons)
1.	2003-04	24747	4.71
2.	2004-05	23453	5.30
3.	2005-06	26650	5.68

Under RISC, so far 37 projects have been set up, while under PRODIP 146 projects have been completed. During 2005-06, a total of 208 exhibitions at the national, sub-national levels, etc., were organised.